

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-2

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Kadafi says U.S. is trying to kill him

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Col. Muammar el Kadafi has accused the United States of trying to kill him and "working day and night to liquidate the Arab nation."

The United States has sent terrorists and assassination teams under instruction from the Central Intelligence Agency "to freely move to get rid of the leadership of this revolution, using poison and electronic

equipment which are the lowest and most barbaric means," the 42-year-old Libyan leader said Wednesday.

He made the accusations in a brief speech to delegates from around the world who are in Tripoli to help commemorate the 15th anniversary of the coup that brought him to power September 1, 1969.

He said the United States tried to destroy American Indians, black nations, Palestinians and the Lebanese, and is now "preparing to swallow the rest of the peoples of the Arab nation."

Colonel Kadafi did not give specifics.

Meanwhile in Washington, the State Department said it is looking into participation by private American companies in a huge irrigation project in Libya — which is on the government's list of terrorist countries — but so far it does not think U.S. law has been violated.

Department spokesman John Hughes confirmed that the government had approved exports of some American equipment for the multi-billion-dollar project, in which at least two American companies are extensively involved.

The \$7 billion project, inaugurat-



MUAMMAR el KADAFI
Says U.S. seeks to destroy Libya

ed Wednesday by Colonel Kadafi, will transport water hundreds of miles from underground rivers beneath Libya's desert interior to the Mediterranean coastal towns and cities where most of the nation's population lives.